

2. (Canceled)
3. (Canceled)
4. (Canceled)
5. (Original) A method of identifying a pathogen comprising the steps of:
  - a) contacting immature dendritic cells with a pathogen or immunogenic components thereof;
  - b) isolating and labeling mRNA from said dendritic cells;
  - c) detecting labeled mRNA from said dendritic cells such that a gene profile is produced; and
  - d) analyzing the gene profile relative to one or more reference gene profile(s) such that at least one stimulus-specific gene is identified thereby identifying a pathogen for which the stimulus-specific gene is specific.
6. (Currently Amended) A method of diagnosing infection in a mammal comprising the steps of:
  - ~~a)~~ b) isolating mRNA from one or more dendritic cells in a mammal;
  - b) contacting said mRNA with at least one stimulus-responsive gene probe wherein hybridization of a stimulus-responsive probe to said mRNA is indicative of infection in said mammal.
7. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 6, wherein the stimulus-responsive gene probe is a stimulus-specific gene probe.
8. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 6, wherein the stimulus-responsive gene probe is a common stimulus-responsive gene probe.
9. (Previously Presented) A method of diagnosing infection by a pathogen in a mammal comprising the steps of:

- a) isolating mRNA from one or more dendritic cells in a mammal;
- b) determining gene expression of at least one stimulus-specific gene, wherein expression of a stimulus-specific gene is indicative of infection by a pathogen to which the stimulus-specific gene is specific.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Canceled)

12. (Canceled)

13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)

15. (Canceled)

16. (Canceled)

17. (Canceled)

18. (Canceled)

19. (Canceled)

20. (Canceled)

21. (Canceled)

22. (Canceled)

10/085,982

-4-

23. (Canceled)

24. (Canceled)

25. (Canceled)

26. (Canceled)

27. (Canceled)

28. (Canceled)

29. (Canceled)

30. (Canceled)

31. (Canceled)

32. (Canceled)

33. (Canceled)

34. (Canceled)

35. (Canceled)

36. (Canceled)

37. (Canceled)

38. (Canceled)

39. (Canceled)
40. (Canceled)
41. (Canceled)
42. (Canceled)
43. (Canceled)
44. (Canceled)
45. (Canceled)
46. (Canceled)
47. (Canceled)
48. (Canceled)
49. (Canceled)
50. (Canceled)
51. (Original) A method of identifying a pathogen comprising the steps of:
  - a) contacting one or more immature dendritic cells with a stimulus;
  - b) isolating mRNA from said dendritic cells; and
  - c) determining a gene profile such that at least one stimulus-specific gene is identified thereby identifying a pathogen for which the stimulus-specific gene is specific.

10/085,982

-6-

52. (Canceled)

53. (Canceled)

54. (Canceled)

55. (Canceled)

56. (Canceled)

57. (Canceled)

58. (Canceled)